

**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA  
FIRE & POLICE COMMISSION MINUTES**

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Thursday **February 26, 2009** @ 4:30  
Santa Barbara Police Department  
215 E. Figueroa St.

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**REGULAR MEETING**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:**

Present: Commissioners: Lauritsen, Lennon, Signor, Parker and Rodriguez

Staff Present: Police Chief Cam Sanchez, Sgt. Riley Harwood, Lt. Dave Whitham, Fire Marshall Joe Poire, Supervisor of the Fire Prevention Bureau, Jim Austin, Assistant City Attorney Michelle Montez, Councilmember Iya Falcone and Secretary, Barbara Sansone

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION:** Rodriguez to approve minutes of **January 22, 2009**

**VOTE:** Unanimous voice vote: Motion passed

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Any member of the public may address the Fire & Police Commission for up to one minute on any subject within the jurisdiction of the Commission that is not scheduled for a public hearing before the Commission. The total time for this item is 10 minutes. If you wish to address the Commission under this item, please complete and deliver to the Commission Secretary before the meeting is convened, a "Request to Speak" form, including a description of the subject you wish to address.

- Tamara Erickson of the Hotel Santa Barbara gave Secretary Barbara Sansone copies of a letter with attached crime stats for the 400 and 500 blocks of State St. to be handed out to the Commissioners.

**4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

None

**5. OLD BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Tom Parker wished Chief Sanchez a happy birthday.

**6. NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**7. Dance Permit – Indochine – 434 State St.**

Present: Mark Lawrence, Owner; Matt Olufs, Broker

**MOTION:** Rodriguez to approve dance permit

**VOTE:** Unanimous voice vote, motion passed

**8. RAPE KIT PRESENTATION BY POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Lt. Dave Whitham gave a brief presentation to the Commission on the processing of rape kits; Santa Barbara PD uses approximately 10 to 12 rape kits a year; the processing of

these are prioritized; if there is an urgent need for results and the DOJ is backed logged, the department pays to send it to a private company to process.

## **9. SANTA BARBARA GRAND JURY REPORT ON GANGS AND GANG VIOLENCE**

Commissioner Parker requested a member of the Grand Jury give a presentation on their report on Gangs and Gang Violence. Commissioner Rodriguez suggested that the Anti Gang Unit at the Police Department would be better qualified to give a presentation. Chief Sanchez stated that the report is at least a year or two old and there is a different Grand Jury now. The Chief suggested that the Commissioners read the report and if they desired, the Anti-Gang Unit would give a brief, 10 minute presentation. If there were questions in particular regarding the Santa Barbara Police Department we would discuss it. The Chief stated that most of the report deals with Probation and includes other cities. Commissioner Lauritsen said he will send copies of the report via e mail/mail to all Commissioners and recommended that the issue be revisited at the March meeting.

## **10. COMPSTAT**

The Chief gave a brief explanation of what CompStat is – analyzing crime statistics in the City and using it to formulate strategies to address criminal issues. The meeting is held the last Wednesday of every month from 1:00-3:00 in the Murphy Room. The Chief invited Commissioners to attend if they so wished.

## **11. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

- Shelter in Place: Fire Marshall Joe Poire and Supervisor Jim Austin explained the difference between Shelter in Place and Stay and Defend; the Fire Department does not support either of these practices; Zaca Fire, one of the largest in California, took a month to burn the acreage that it did, the Australian fire burned 3 times this amount in 18 hours; this is mostly due to the difference in terrain between California and Australia. The Fire Department feels it is not appropriate or safe for people to shelter in place.
- Residential Sprinkler Requirements: Joe Poire gave a power point presentation on this ordinance, which he and Jim Austin have been working on for 2 years; modify the sprinkler section and take to the Ordinance Committee in March; residential sprinklers respond much more quickly than commercial sprinklers and often complete their work before the Fire Department arrives on scene; sprinklers reduce the rate of death by 82%; Fire Department typically has a 4 minute response time after alarm goes off; sprinklers put out about 20 gallons per minute; firehose puts out about 150 gallons per minute and does much more damage. New ordinance will require sprinklers in all new construction, including single family residences; currently sprinklers are required in buildings more than 5000 sq. feet. NFPA gives an estimated cost of \$1.61 sq. ft. After research the local cost is estimated at approximately \$3.00 sq. ft. The Department hopes to make this effective by July 1, 2009.

## **12. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT**

- Homicide “who done it” in the City; all 6 suspects in custody within 72 hours; some of the suspects were affiliated with gangs, however, the victim was not. This is not considered a “gang related” homicide.
- 2 graduates from academy; 2 in the academy to graduate in approximately 5 months; Chief does not know if anyone will be attending the June Academy; backgrounds done and ready to go if approved.

- PD is down 5 positions – Investigative Lt. position, Sgt. position and 3 Officer positions; presently at 136 sworn personnel with 2 out on injury (138); Council has given authority to over-hire
- Capt. Martel is overseeing all of the cases since we are down a Lieutenant in Investigations
- Chief has an active list of good candidates for open positions
- Sgt. Wolfe retiring in March/Chad Hunt has been promoted to Sergeant
- Depending on the budget, DARE will be suspended, BC's will go back to patrol, PAL officer will go back to patrol
- Budget is still a work in progress; this will be discussed and available to review in the near future
- Notice given to Animal Control Officer, Animal Control Supervisor will no longer be a supervisor, Records Clerk Mgr. position will be taken over by Lt. Whitham, Mike Schwab will no longer assist in the Lab
- Councilmember Falcone stated that officers will not go below 140 and would eventually like to see the Department re-staffed to 150.

**9. ADJOURN: 5:50**